

**Name:** Nectaria (Nicki) Grafos Smith

**Position:** Aquatics Director

**Brief History:**

It all started when my dad made me give up my dream of becoming the next Dorothy Hamill. He told me instead of continuing figure skating lessons I had to learn how to swim. So off to the Windsor-Essex County YMCA we went to sign up for beginner swim lessons. I have been working for the YMCA in Canada and the US since 1990, first as a lifeguard/water exercise instructor, then on to a supervisor and director. Previous to accepting the Aquatics Director position at the Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA (June 2006) I was the Aquatics Director at the Alamance County Community YMCA in Burlington just short of 7 years.

**Experience / Education:**

Honours Degree Anthropology, University of Windsor

Master of Arts Religion and Culture, Wilfrid Laurier University

**Hobbies:**

Jogging, reading, walking the dog

**Favorite Movie:**

Patriot Games and American President (both the classic and the new version!)

**Favorite Book:**

Any Wilbur Smith books (Elephant Song, When the Lion Feeds)

**Favorite candy or sweet treat:**

chocolate

**Personality Quirk:**

Someone else can answer this one!

**Favorite thing to do on your day off:**

Read Vanity Fair magazine

**Something most people do not know about me:**

I don't know how to ride a bike

**Pet's Name(s):**

Twister (Cat)

Maple (Dog)

Snake (Snake)

**Coollest thing I have ever done:**

Slept in an igloo on the Arctic Circle!

Float in the Dead Sea reading a book!

